

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
MISSOULA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOSEPH CHRISTOPHER STEELE,

Defendant.

CR 24-43-M-DWM

ORDER

THIS MATTER comes before the Court on the United State' Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture. (Doc. 29.) The Court having read the Motion and being fully advised in the premises finds:

THAT the defendant, Joseph Christopher Steele, pled guilty to the Indictment pursuant to a Plea Agreement, which provides a factual basis and cause to issue a forfeiture order forfeiting Steele's interest in the firearm and ammunition referenced in the Plea Agreement and Indictment under 18 U.S.C. § 924(d).

THAT prior to the disposition of the asset, the United States Marshal's Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or a designated sub-custodian, is required to seize the forfeited property.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, DECREED AND ADJUDGED:

THAT Steele's interest in the following property is forfeited to the United

States in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 924(d):

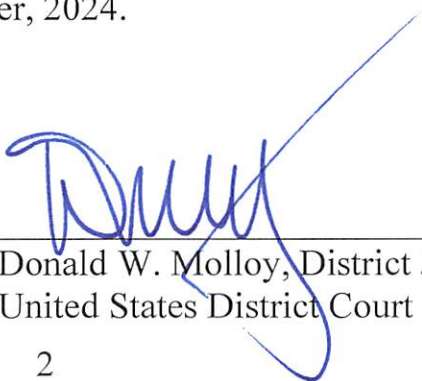
- Heckler and Koch, model USP45, .45 caliber pistol, S/N: 25-154929; and
- Ammunition and accessories, including 10 rounds of assorted .45 caliber ammunition.

THAT the United States Marshal's Service, the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or a designated sub-custodian, is directed to seize the property subject to forfeiture and further to make a return as provided by law;

THAT the United States will provide written notice to all third parties asserting a legal interest in any of the above-described property and will post on an official government internet site (www.forfeiture.gov) for at least 30 consecutive days as required by Rule G(4)(a)(iv)(C) of the Supplemental Rules for Admiralty or Maritime Claims and Asset Forfeiture Actions, of the Court's Preliminary Order and the United States' intent to dispose of the property in such manner as the Attorney General may direct, pursuant to Title 26, United States Code, Section 5872(b), and to make its return to this Court that such action has been completed;

THAT upon adjudication of all third-party interests, if any, the Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture.

DATED this 29th day of October, 2024.



Donald W. Molloy, District Judge
United States District Court